

FACT SHEET

MONTANA HAZARDOUS WASTE PERMIT MODIFICATION

Phillips 66 Company Billings Refinery
401 South 23rd Street
Billings, Montana

Why is DEQ issuing a Fact Sheet?

This fact sheet provides basic information to help the public understand the changes to the Phillips 66 Company Billings Refinery's hazardous waste permit.

Why does the Billings Refinery have a hazardous waste permit?

Phillips 66 Company is a petroleum refinery that began operating in 1949. Historical refinery activities have resulted in contaminated soil and groundwater. The Montana Hazardous Waste Act requires Phillips 66 Company to have a hazardous waste permit to cleanup releases of hazardous waste and hazardous constituents.

Why is the permit being modified?

In 2002, DEQ selected cleanup activities to address both on-site and off-site contamination. The cleanup activities focused on free product and groundwater contamination. Free product is petroleum contamination that is a separate material that does not dissolve in water (it is also called non-aqueous phase liquid). Cleanup activities have produced substantial improvements to the soil and ground water; however, additional work is needed at the refinery.

DEQ requested a corrective measures study to assess cleanup activities at four areas of the refinery that were not included in the 2002 selection. In November 2021, Phillips 66 Company submitted a corrective measures study report and proposed a cleanup remedy for those areas. Phillips 66 Company's submittal also included a request to change the site's primary groundwater remedy from pumping and treating groundwater to using sparging technologies. Sparging is a technology where air, oxygen, and/or other constituents are introduced into the water table to stimulate the breakdown of contamination by microorganisms.

DEQ decided to issue a modification to Phillips 66 Company's hazardous waste permit to select a remedy. The permit modification will require remedy implementation. The modification does not include any changes to the way the Billings refinery manages hazardous waste. Phillips 66 Company will continue to be required to perform previously approved cleanup activities at the refinery.

When is the permit final and in effect?

The public was given the opportunity to comment on the draft permit modification and environmental assessment (EA). No comments were received on the draft EA. DEQ received general comments on the proposed remedy.

DEQ has completed a document called Response to Comments in accordance with 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 124.17 (incorporated by reference in Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.53.1201).

DEQ has decided to issue a modification to Phillips 66's hazardous waste permit. The final decision is dated September 30, 2022.

An appeal of DEQ's decision must be submitted to the Montana Board of Environmental Review by October 31, 2022 (75-10-406(4), Montana Code Annotated). The final permit decision shall become effective on November 1, 2022, unless appealed.

Module II of the hazardous waste permit (including the Statement of Basis), the Response to Comments, and the final environmental assessment are available on DEQ's website at:

<https://deq.mt.gov/public/publiccomment> and DEQ's main office located at: Montana Department of Environmental Quality, 1520 E. 6th Avenue, Helena, Montana (phone 406-444-5300). Office review hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Who do I contact if I want to know more?

If you need further information, please contact Denise A. Kirkpatrick at the above address, phone (406) 444-3983, or email: dkirkpatrick@mt.gov

Dated September 30, 2022